SPECIFIC WAIVER COVER SHEET

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION APRIL 2003 AGENDA Item No. W-7

TITLE:	Request by Soquel Union Elementary School District to waive Education Code (EC) Section 56366.1 (a), certification for an uncertified nonpublic school, Wediko Children's Services Inc. located in Windsor, New Hampshire to provide services to one special education student, Michael N.	X ACTION INFORMATION PUBLIC HEARING CONSENT
CDSIS:	1-10-2002	

RECOMMENDATION:

The Department recommends: Approval

Summary of Previous State Board of Education Discussion and Action: The State Board of Education has taken action on several previous nonpublic school certification waivers.

Summary of Key Issue(s): The Soquel Union Elementary School District (SUESD) requests a waiver of EC Section 56366.1 (a), which establishes standards for nonpublic, nonsectarian schools and agencies to follow to be certified to provide special education and designated instruction services (DIS) to students with disabilities. The district requests this waiver in order to place student Michael N. at Wediko Children's Service Inc. an uncertified nonpublic school, in Windsor, New Hampshire.

The placement is pursuant to a due process compromise. The student has been in the program since June of 2001 and is showing progress. The district is requesting to keep the student in the program at **Wediko Children's Services Inc.** in order to ensure continued progress. The student requires a highly structured program to meet his educational and behavioral needs. **SUESD** contacted numerous in-state and out-of-state Nonpublic Schools, and could not find an appropriate placement.

The **Wediko Children's Service Inc.** offers highly individualized services in a residential setting that the student needs. The **Wediko School** program emphasizes comprehension based curriculum objectives that are important to all students regardless of their grade or instructional level. All subject areas include curriculum that integrates instruction on basic skills with problem solving, communication and writing skills. The behavioral management strategies include use of contingency contracting, time out procedures, systematic feedback, group counseling, and crisis intervention strategies to maintain a safe school environment and promote the social competence skills needed by students.

Authority for the waiver: Education Code 56101

Effective dates of request: September 9, 2001 to June 3, 2003

Bargaining unit(s) consulted on: 10/2/02
Position of bargaining unit (choose only one):

Neutral Support Oppose

Name of bargaining unit representative: Mimi Edgar

Fiscal Analysis (as appropriate): No known additional fiscal impact

Background Information: Waiver Request forms and supporting documentation are attached.